



March 12, 2012

The Honorable Raymond H. LaHood
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary LaHood:

I am writing today in support of the City of Seattle's application for the US Department of Transportation TIGER grant. If the City is awarded this grant, funding would be dedicated to the Two-Way Mercer West project. The Mercer Corridor carries more than 70,000 people a day and has been a major traffic bottleneck in the Seattle area for a long time. It has constrained access to my institution, Pacific Science Center, one of the largest science museums in the county.

The Two-Way Mercer West project can help alleviate the congestion and create a livable, walkable community and improve mobility and access in a rapidly developing area of downtown Seattle. The project will provide much needed pedestrian and bicycle connections between the Queen Anne and South Lake Union neighborhoods. In addition, it will provide easy access to all of the cultural amenities of the Seattle Center, including Pacific Science Center.

Completing this project is a priority for not only the City of Seattle, but also for the state of Washington and the entire region. Funding from US Department of Transportation would help ensure that this project is completed. Thank you for your consideration of this project.



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Pacific Science Center is an independent not-for-profit educational institution that inspires lifelong interest in science, math and technology by engaging diverse communities through interactive and innovative exhibits and programs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Bryce Seidl".

R. Bryce Seidl
President and CEO

cc: Senator Patty Murray
Senator Maria Cantwell
Congressman Jim McDermott
Governor Christine Gregoire
Mayor Mike McGinn, Seattle